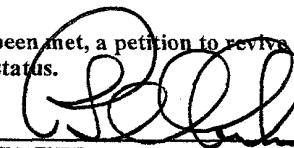


FORM PTO-1390 (REV. 11-2000)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 1-15615
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371				U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5 10/019886
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/GB00/02503	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 29 June 2000 (29.06.00)	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 29 June 1999 (29.06.99)		
TITLE OF INVENTION METHOD AND APPARATUS TO PROVIDE MARKING ON BREAD				
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US BRIAN ARTHUR CLARKE				
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:				
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p>				
Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:				
<p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Formal Drawings (2 sheets); return card; express mail certificate; International Search Report; Written Opinion (IPEA/408); International Preliminary Examination Report (IPEA/409); and Reply to Written Opinion</p>				

U.S. APPLICATION NO. of known, see 37 CFR 1.55 10/019886		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/GB00/02503	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 1-15615
<p>21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:</p> <p>BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)):</p> <p>Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1040</p> <p>International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$890</p> <p>International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$740</p> <p>International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$710</p> <p>International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100</p>		CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =		\$ 740.00	
<p>Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).</p>		\$ -	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE
Total claims	25 - 20 =	5	x 18.00 \$ 90.00
Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	x 84.00 \$ 0
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)		+ 280.00 \$ 0	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =		\$ 830.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.		+ \$ -	
SUBTOTAL =		\$ 830.00	
<p>Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).</p>		\$ -	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =		\$ 830.00	
<p>Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property</p>		+ \$ -	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =		\$ 830.00	
		Amount to be refunded:	\$
		charged:	\$
<p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>830.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>13-1816</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>			
<p>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</p>			
<p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: MARSHALL & MELHORN, LLC PHILLIP S. OBERLIN FOUR SEAGATE - 8TH FLOOR TOLEDO, OHIO 43604</p> <p>Phone: (419) 249-7149 Fax: (419) 249-7151 December 27, 2001</p>		 SIGNATURE Phillip S. Oberlin NAME 19,066 REGISTRATION NUMBER	

10/019886
531 Rec'd PCT 27 DEC 2001
1-15615

"Express Mail" Label Number EL 469907095US

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on December 27, 2001 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Kathleen J. Moore

(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

Kathleen J. Moore

(Typed name of person mailing correspondence)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	<input type="text"/>	Group Art Unit:
BRIAN ARTHUR CLARKE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Serial No.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Filed:	<input type="text"/>	Examiner:
Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the DO/EO/US off PCT/GB00/02503 filed 29 June 2000	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO PROVIDE MARKING ON BREAD	<input type="text"/>	Attorney Docket 1-15615

December 27, 2001

Box PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action and before calculating the filing fee,
please amend the application being filed concurrently herewith under 35
U.S.C. 371 as follows:

In the Specification:

Page 1, line 2, insert --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--; line 10, insert --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 4, line 5, insert --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--; line 14, insert --DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT--.

In the Claims:

Please amend original claims 6, 8-10, 16, 19, and 21-22 as follows:

6. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method includes the step of proving the dough for the bread and the moisture is deposited during proving.
8. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method includes the step of proving the dough for the bread and the moisture is deposited after proving.
9. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the moisture is deposited by spraying.

10. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flour is deposited in a predetermined pattern.

16. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the flour depositing means is arranged to deposit in a predetermined pattern.

19. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the flour depositing means includes vibration means.

21. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the apparatus includes conveying means for conveying dough along the pathway, the conveying means defining the pathway.

22. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the apparatus includes means to stop the movement of the dough along the pathway when the dough is aligned with the means for depositing flour.

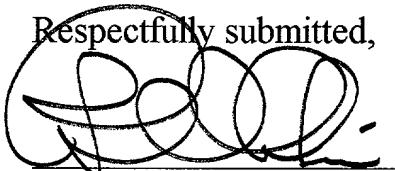
Please delete original claims 26-35.

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the specification and claims to eliminate multiple dependencies. As the changes to the specification are headings and are considered to be insertions, it is respectfully submitted that a separate marked-

up copy is not required for the specification amendments. A separate marked-up version showing the changes made to the claims is attached hereto entitled "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made". Original claims 26-35 have been deleted. Claims 1-25 are currently pending in the present application. No new matter has been added by any of these amendments.

Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip S. Oberlin
Registration No. 19,066

ATTORNEYS

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Fax: (419) 249-7151

1-15615

Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

6. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein the method includes the step of proving the dough for the bread and the moisture is deposited during proving.

8. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any of] claim[s] 1 [to 5], wherein the method includes the step of proving the dough for the bread and the moisture is deposited after proving.

9. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any of] claim[s] 1 [to 5], wherein the moisture is deposited by spraying.

10. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein the flour is deposited in a predetermined pattern.

16. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim[s] 13, [14 or 15,] wherein the flour depositing means is arranged to deposit in a predetermined pattern.

19. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in [any of] claim[s] 13 [to 18], wherein the flour depositing means includes vibration means.

21. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in [any of] claim[s] 13 [to 20], wherein the apparatus includes conveying means for conveying dough along the pathway, the conveying means defining the pathway.

22. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in [any of] claim[s] 13 [to 21], wherein the apparatus includes means to stop the movement of the dough along the pathway when the dough is aligned with the means for depositing flour.

METHOD AND APPARATUS TO PROVIDE MARKING ON BREAD

5 The invention relates to a method and apparatus for use in making bread to

provide marking on the resulting bread.

It is known to indent a word into the side of a baking tin in which dough is baked to make bread so that the resulting bread has the word spelt out in relief. It can be difficult to make out the word created in this way.

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According to one aspect of the invention, there is provided a method for use in making bread to provide marking on the resulting bread, the method comprising the steps of depositing moisture on a surface of the dough for the bread, depositing flour or the like on the said surface of the dough, one or both of the flour or the like and the moisture being deposited in a desired predetermined pattern so that flour is retained by moisture on the dough in a predetermined pattern, and baking the dough.

20 In this way, a word, picture or other desired pattern can be produced on the bread and the use of flour or the like results in a pale contrast with the remainder of the loaf so that the word, picture or other pattern is readily understood or recognised. Furthermore, even if the pattern is rubbed, as the process results in the pattern being shallowly indented, flour tends to remain at the edges of the pattern where there is an abrupt change in the surface level so that the contrasting pattern is still clear in outline.

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The term "flour or the like" is intended to include wheat flour as well as corn flour, starches and flour substitutes.

The moisture is preferably water or principally water. In another embodiment the moisture is milk or a mixture of milk and water. In a further embodiment the moisture is a combination of egg and water and in a further embodiment the moisture is a solution of sugar or the like in water.

The method may include the step of proving the dough for the bread and the moisture may be deposited during proving for example as a result of raised humidity, or may be deposited after proving. The moisture may be deposited in any suitable manner and may be deposited by spraying.

Preferably the flour is deposited in a predetermined pattern. The flour or the like may be deposited on the dough in any desired manner and may be deposited through a stencil to achieve the predetermined pattern. Preferably, the stencil is arranged less than 3cm from the surface of the dough.

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According to another aspect of the invention, there is provided apparatus for use in making bread to provide marking on the resulting bread, the apparatus comprising an oven, means defining a pathway to the oven, means on the pathway upstream of the oven for depositing moisture on a surface of the dough for the bread, and means on the pathway between the moisture depositing means and the oven for depositing flour or the like on the said surface of the dough, one or both of the moisture depositing means and the flour depositing means being arranged to deposit in a

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predetermined pattern so that flour is retained by moisture on the dough in a predetermined pattern.

5 The moisture depositing means may take any suitable form and may comprise a proving box. In another embodiment, the moisture depositing means comprises means for spraying moisture onto the dough.

10 Preferably the flour depositing means is arranged to deposit in a predetermined pattern. The means to deposit the flour or the like may take any suitable form and may include a stencil. The stencil is preferably arranged less than 3cm from the anticipated level of the surface of the dough. The flour depositing means may include vibration means. The vibration means is preferably arranged to vibrate substantially in the direction of intended deposition. This reduces any lack of definition in the pattern due to the vibration.

15 The apparatus may include conveying means for conveying dough along the pathway, the conveying means defining the pathway. The conveying means may comprise a conveyor belt. The apparatus may include means to stop the movement of the dough along the pathway when the dough is aligned with the means for depositing flour. Where conveying means is provided, the apparatus may include means to stop the conveying means when the dough is aligned with the means for depositing flour. The stopping means may include a sensor to sense the position of the dough and the sensor may include a photocell.

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According to another aspect of the invention, there is provided a kit for use in making bread to provide marking on the resulting bread, the kit comprising means for depositing moisture on a surface of the dough for

the bread and means for depositing flour or the like on the said surface of the dough, one or both of the moisture depositing means and the flour depositing means being arranged to deposit in a predetermined pattern so that flour is retained by moisture in the dough, in a predetermined pattern.

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An embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

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Fig. 1 is a schematic plan view of the apparatus of the embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 2 is a detail side elevation at A-A' of the apparatus of Fig. 1; and,

Fig. 3 is an end elevation in partial cross-section at B-B' of the apparatus of Fig. 1.

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The apparatus 10 of the embodiment as shown in Fig. 1 includes a proving box 12 and a conveyor belt 14 to convey dough from the proving box 12 to an oven 16 in the direction of the arrow. There are two gantries 17,19 spanning the conveyor belt 14. The first gantry 17, which is adjacent the proving box 12, supports a plurality of water spraying nozzles 18 over the conveyor belt 14. The second gantry 19, which is adjacent the first gantry 17, supports a vibration hopper 20 shown in more detail in Fig. 2.

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The vibration hopper 20 consists of an open topped hopper 22 to be agitated by a pneumatic ram 24 located on one side of the hopper 22 and arranged to vibrate the hopper 22 in a substantially vertical direction. The hopper 22 consists of continuous side walls 26 which are angled slightly outwardly and a horizontal floor. The horizontal floor of the hopper 22 is formed of a stencil 28 which may for example include two groups of

apertures, each in a pattern to spell out the word "organic". The stencil 28 is preferably very accurately cut and may be laser cut from sheet metal which may be several millimetres thick. A sieve 30 is located above the stencil 28 and entirely covers the floor of the hopper 22. A powered agitator 31 is provided above the sieve 30 to agitate flour in the hopper 22 to prevent compacting of the flour.

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A photocell sensor 32 is supported on the vibration hopper gantry 19 to sense interruption of a horizontal light beam passing across the conveyor belt 14.

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In use, dough will be made up and put on trays 34. Pieces of dough 36 on the trays 34 will arrive in the proving box 12. After proving at raised humidity and temperature, each tray 34 is transported out of the proving box 12 on the conveyor belt 14 to pass under the first gantry 17 which emits a continuous fine spray of water from the spraying nozzles 18 to leave a continuous uniform layer of water on the upper surface of the pieces of dough 36. The conveyor belt 14 continues to move until the leading edge of one of the pieces of dough 36 interrupts the light beam to the photosensor 32. The photosensor 32 thus sends a signal to the motor (not shown) operating the conveyor belt 14 so that the motor stops the conveyor belt 14. In this position, two pieces of dough 36 on the tray 34 are aligned with the vibration hopper 22 underneath the stencil 28. Once the conveyor belt 14 has stopped, a signal is sent to the pneumatic cylinder 24 to vibrate the hopper 22 which results in flour passing through the sieve 30 and through the stencil 28 to be deposited on the moist upper surface of the two pieces of dough. Each piece of dough 36 thus receives flour in a pattern to spell the word "organic". The vertical distance X in

Fig. 2 between the top of the two pieces of dough 36 and the lower surface of the stencil 28 is controlled to be about 30mm. After the flour has been deposited, the vibration is stopped, the conveyor belt 14 is started again by its motor and the next two pieces of dough on a tray come forwards.

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The dough is conveyed by the conveyor belt 14 into the oven 16 to be baked and the flour which has stuck to the moist surface of the dough is baked on. It thus forms a white or off-white pattern on the brown surface of the loaf which is clearly legible. The area of the surface of the dough where the flour is received will not rise as well as the dough around it and so there is a slight indentation under the flour. Thus, if the flour is rubbed off the marking will remain as an indentation. In any case, as the pattern is hard edged there tends to be a lip at the edges which acts to retain flour even if flour has been rubbed off elsewhere so that the pattern remains in outline at least.

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In another embodiment, the humidity of the proving box 12 is so high that a continuous layer of moisture results and the first gantry 17 and water spraying nozzles 18 are not required.

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In a further embodiment, the water may be sprayed to cover only a narrow strip along the centre of each piece of dough 36 where the flour is to be deposited.

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In another embodiment the water may be applied by contact with an absorbent body such as a brush or sponge.

The stencil 28 may spell any desired word or may define a picture or abstract design for example.

While an automated system has been described, the method could be

5 carried out under manual control.

CLAIMS

1. A method for use in making bread to provide marking on the resulting bread, the method comprising the steps of depositing moisture on a surface of the dough for the bread, depositing flour or the like on the said surface of the dough, one or both of the flour or the like and the moisture being deposited in a desired predetermined pattern so that flour is retained by moisture on the dough in a predetermined pattern, and baking the dough.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the moisture is water or principally water.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the moisture is milk or a mixture of milk and water.

4. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the moisture is a combination of egg and water.

5. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the moisture is a solution of sugar or the like in water.

6. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the method includes the step of proving the dough for the bread and the moisture is deposited during proving.

7. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the moisture is deposited by means of raised humidity.

8. A method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the method includes the step of proving the dough for the bread and the moisture is deposited after proving.

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9. A method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the moisture is deposited by spraying.

10. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the flour is deposited in a predetermined pattern.

11. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the flour or the like is deposited through a stencil to achieve the predetermined pattern.

12. A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the stencil is arranged less than 3cm from the surface of the dough.

13. Apparatus for use in making bread to provide marking on the resulting bread, the apparatus comprising an oven, means defining a pathway to the oven for dough for bread, means on the pathway for depositing moisture on a surface of the dough for the bread, and means on the pathway between the moisture depositing means and the oven for depositing flour or the like on the said surface of the dough, one or both of the moisture depositing means and the flour depositing means being arranged to deposit in a predetermined pattern so that flour is retained by moisture on the dough in a predetermined pattern.

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14. Apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the moisture depositing means comprises a proving box.

5 15. Apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the moisture depositing

means comprises means for spraying moisture onto the dough.

16. Apparatus as claimed in claims 13, 14 or 15, wherein the flour depositing means is arranged to deposit in a predetermined pattern.

10 17. Apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein the means to deposit the flour or the like includes a stencil.

18. Apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the stencil is arranged less than 3cm from the anticipated level of the surface of the dough.

19. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 13 to 18, wherein the flour depositing means includes vibration means.

20 20. Apparatus as claimed in claim 19, wherein the vibration means is arranged to vibrate substantially in the direction of intended deposition.

21. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 13 to 20, wherein the apparatus includes conveying means for conveying dough along the pathway, the conveying means defining the pathway.

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22. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 13 to 21, wherein the apparatus includes means to stop the movement of the dough along the pathway when the dough is aligned with the means for depositing flour.

23. Apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein where conveying means is provided, the apparatus includes stopping means to stop the conveying means when the dough is aligned with the means for depositing flour.

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24. Apparatus as claimed in 23, wherein the stopping means includes a sensor to sense the position of the dough.

25. Apparatus as claimed in 24, wherein the sensor includes a photocell.

26. A kit for use in making bread to provide marking on the resulting bread, the kit comprising means for depositing moisture on a surface of the dough for the bread and means for depositing flour or the like on the said surface of the dough, one or both of the moisture depositing means and the flour depositing means being arranged to deposit in a predetermined pattern so that flour is retained by moisture on the dough in a predetermined pattern.

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27. A kit as claimed in claim 26, wherein the moisture depositing means comprises means for spraying moisture onto the dough.

28. A kit as claimed in claim 26 or claim 27, wherein the flour depositing means is arranged to deposit in a predetermined pattern.

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29. A kit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the means to deposit the flour or the like includes a stencil.

30. A kit as claimed in any of claims 26 to 29, wherein the flour depositing means includes vibration means.

5 31. A kit as claimed in claim 30, wherein the vibration means is

arranged to vibrate substantially in the direction of intended deposition.

32. A kit as claimed in any of claims 26 to 31, wherein the kit includes conveying means for conveying dough along a pathway.

33. A kit as claimed in claim 32, wherein the kit includes stopping means to stop the conveying means when the dough is aligned with the means for depositing flour.

34. A kit as claimed in claim 33, wherein the stopping means includes a sensor to sense the position of the dough.

35. A kit as claimed in claim 34, wherein the sensor includes a photocell.

ABSTRACT

The apparatus (10) comprises a proving box (12), an oven (16) and a conveyor (14) to convey dough from the proving box (12) to the oven (16).

5 Nozzles (18) on a gantry (17) over the conveyor belt (14) spray water on to a surface of the dough for the bread on the conveyor belt (14). A vibration hopper (20) on a second gantry (19) downstream of the first deposits flour through a stencil (28) onto the dough on the conveyor belt (14) so that flour is retained by the moisture on the dough in a pattern determined by the stencil (28).

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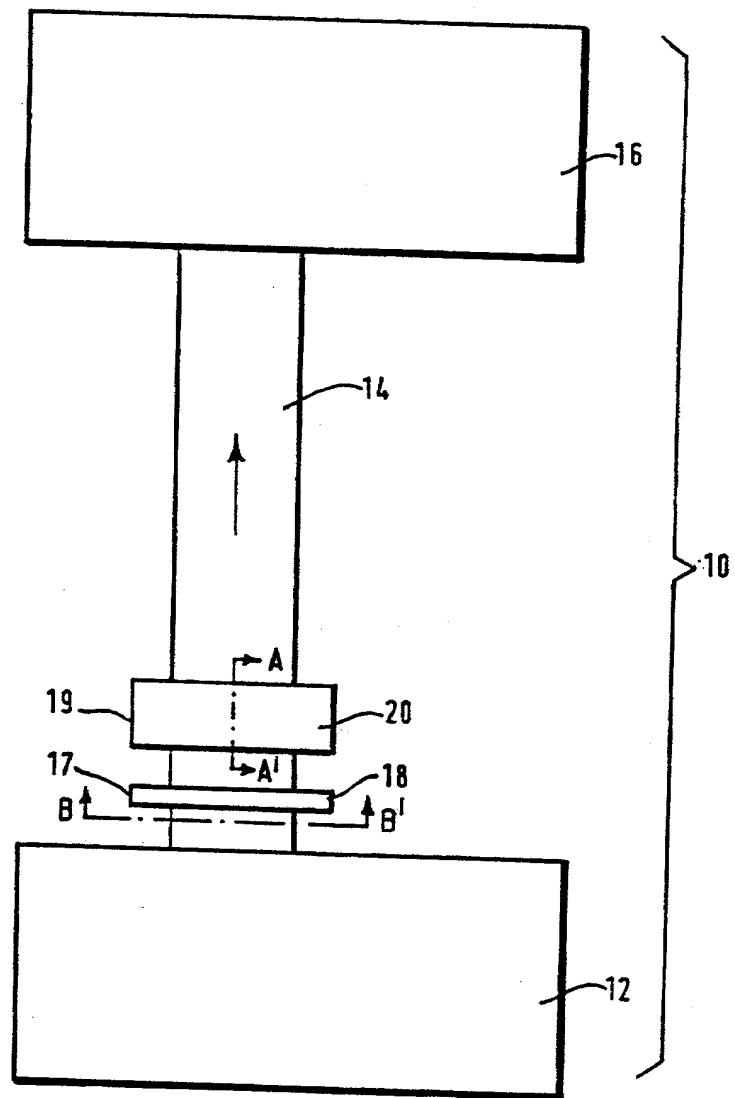


Fig.1.

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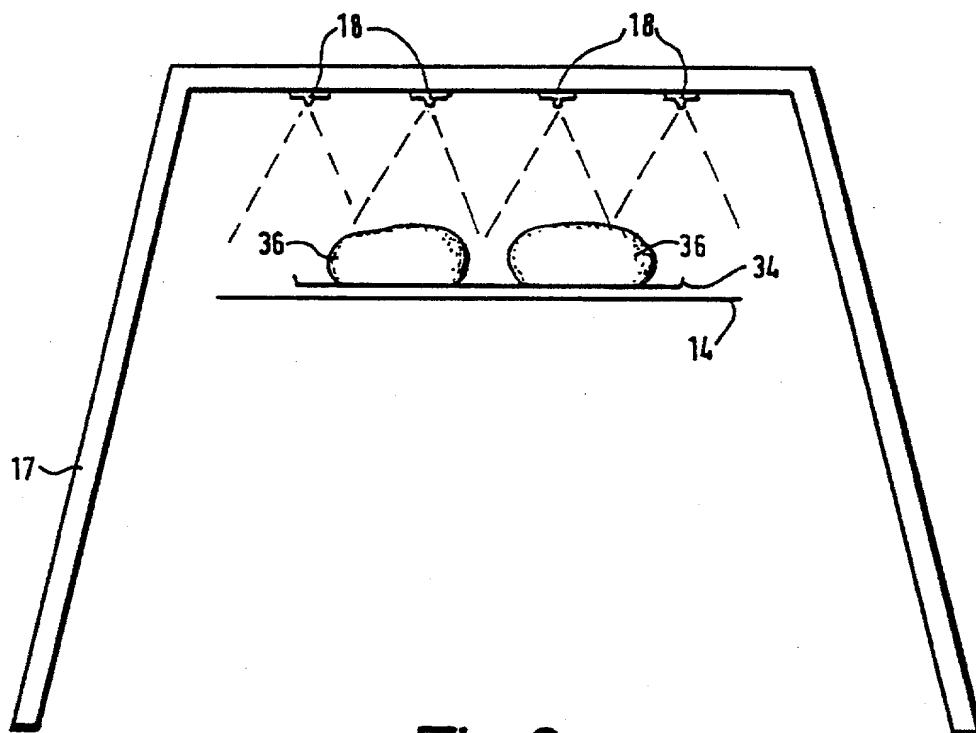
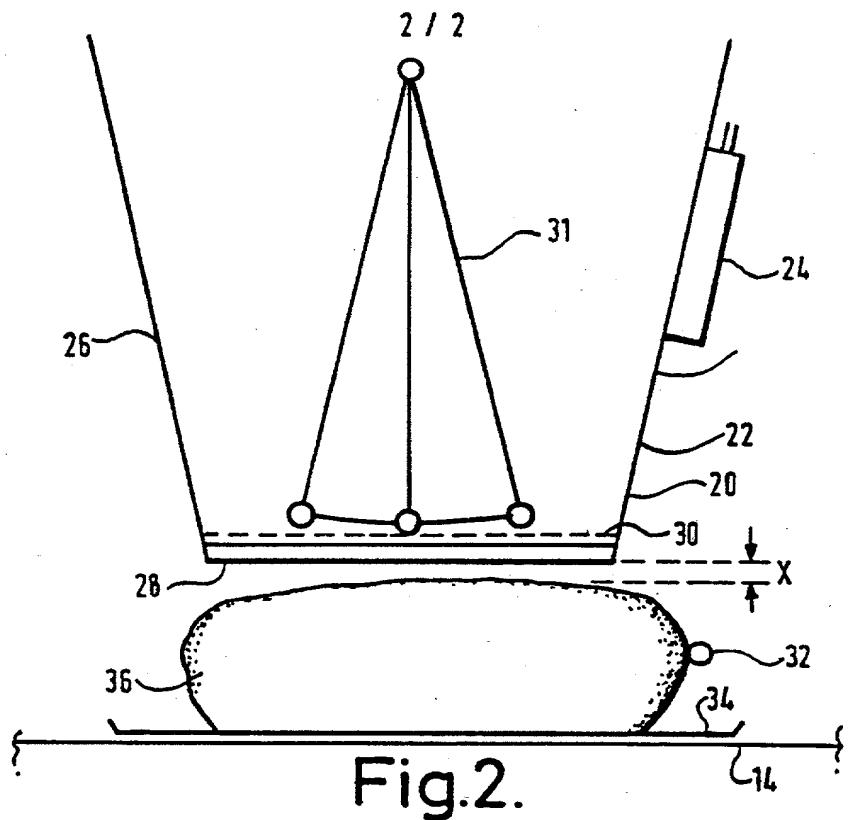


Fig.3.

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
IN ORIGINAL APPLICATION**

**ATTORNEY DOCKET
NO. 1-15615**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe that I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled _____

METHOD AND APPARATUS TO PROVIDE MARKING ON BREAD

the specification of which (check one)

— is attached hereto, and is a filing under 35 USC 371 of PCT International Application No. _____ filed _____, and amended on _____.

XX was filed on _____ as U.S. Serial No. 10/019,886 under 35 USC 371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/GB00/02503 filed 29 June 2000, and amended on December 27, 2001.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56,

X and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent; and

— if this is a continuation-in-part application, information that occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.63(e); and

— in compliance with this duty, there is attached an information disclosure statement, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s) Priority Claimed

9915016.1 (Number)	United Kingdom (Country)	29 June 1999 (Day/Month/Year Filed)	X Yes	_____ No
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Appln. Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

If foreign agent is involved, the undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from Withers & Rogers (foreign agent) as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom

instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorney or agent named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith with full power of substitution and revocation: Donald A. Schurr, Reg. No. 34,247; Phillip S. Oberlin, Reg. No. 19,066; D. Edward Dolgorukov, Reg. No. 26,266; Mark A. Hixon, Reg. No. 44,766; Stephen P. Evans, Reg. No. 47,281; and Angelica M. Colwell, Reg. No. 46,637, all of the law firm of Marshall & Melhorn, LLC, Four SeaGate - 8th Floor, Toledo, Ohio 43604. Address all telephone calls to Phillip S. Oberlin at telephone number (419) 249-7149. Address all correspondence to MARSHALL & MELHORN, LLC, Four Seagate - 8th Floor, Toledo, Ohio 43604, Attention: Phillip S. Oberlin.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor BRIAN ARTHUR CLARKE

Inventor's signature Brian Arthur Clarke Date 18th January 2002

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